

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

PUGET SOUNDKEEPER ALLIANCE,

Plaintiff,

V.

SEATTLE IRON & METALS CORP.,

Defendant.

Case No. C12-1201 RSM

JOINT STIPULATED PROTECTIVE
ORDER

1. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential, proprietary, or private information for which special protection may be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the court to enter the following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this agreement is consistent with LCR 26(c). It does not confer blanket protection on all disclosures or responses to discovery, the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the limited information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment under the applicable legal principles, and it does not presumptively entitle parties to file confidential information under seal.

1 2. “CONFIDENTIAL” MATERIAL

2 “Confidential” material shall include the following documents and tangible things
3 produced or otherwise exchanged: Seattle Iron & Metals Corporation and Subsidiaries
4 Consolidated Financial Statements.

5 3. SCOPE

6 The protections conferred by this agreement cover not only confidential material (as
7 defined above), but also (1) any information copied or extracted from confidential material;
8 (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations of confidential material; and (3) any
9 testimony, conversations, or presentations by parties or their counsel that might reveal
10 confidential material.

11 However, the protections conferred by this agreement do not cover information that is
12 in the public domain or becomes part of the public domain through trial or otherwise.

13 4. ACCESS TO AND USE OF CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL

14 4.1 Basic Principles. A receiving party may use confidential material that is
15 disclosed or produced by another party or by a non-party in connection with this case only for
16 prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this litigation. Confidential material may be
17 disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the conditions described in this
18 agreement. Confidential material must be stored and maintained by a receiving party at a
19 location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons authorized
20 under this agreement.

21 4.2 Disclosure of “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items. Unless otherwise
22 ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the designating party, a receiving party may
23 disclose any confidential material only to:

24 (a) the receiving party’s counsel of record in this action, as well as counsel
25 of record’s legal assistant to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the information for
26 this litigation;

(b) the Executive Director of the receiving party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation, however, disclosure shall be limited to references to the financial statements in unredacted expert reports (including drafts), unredacted pleadings (including drafts) and attorney settlement memoranda citing the financial statements. The Executive Director shall not review the financial statements themselves nor make any notes regarding the contents of the financial statements based on references in the unredacted expert reports, unredacted pleadings, and attorney settlement memoranda;

(c) the receiving party's economist expert to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation and who has signed the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound" (Exhibit A);

(d) the court, court personnel, and court reporters and their staff;

(e) during their depositions, economist experts who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A), unless otherwise agreed by the designating party or ordered by the court. Pages of transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal confidential material must be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except as permitted under this agreement;

(g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information.

4.3 Filing Confidential Material. Before filing confidential material or discussing or referencing such material in court filings, the filing party shall confer with the designating party to determine whether the designating party will remove the confidential designation, whether the document can be redacted, or whether a motion to seal or stipulation and proposed order is warranted. Local Civil Rule 5(g) sets forth the procedures that must be followed and the standards that will be applied when a party seeks permission from the court to file material under seal.

1 5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

2 5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection. Each
3 party or non-party that designates information or items for protection under this agreement
4 must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies under the
5 appropriate standards. The designating party must designate for protection only those parts of
6 material, documents, items, or oral or written communications that qualify, so that other
7 portions of the material, documents, items, or communications for which protection is not
8 warranted are not swept unjustifiably within the ambit of this agreement.

9 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations that are
10 shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper purpose (*e.g.*, to
11 unnecessarily encumber or delay the case development process or to impose unnecessary
12 expenses and burdens on other parties) expose the designating party to sanctions.

13 If it comes to a designating party's attention that information or items that it
14 designated for protection do not qualify for protection, the designating party must promptly
15 notify all other parties that it is withdrawing the mistaken designation.

16 5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in this
17 agreement (see, *e.g.*, second paragraph of section 5.2(a) below), or as otherwise stipulated or
18 ordered, disclosure or discovery material that qualifies for protection under this agreement
19 must be clearly so designated before or when the material is disclosed or produced.

20 (a) Information in documentary form: (*e.g.*, paper or electronic documents
21 and deposition exhibits, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial
22 proceedings), the designating party must affix the word "CONFIDENTIAL" to each page that
23 contains confidential material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies
24 for protection, the producing party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (*e.g.*, by
25 making appropriate markings in the margins).

(b) Testimony given in deposition or in other pretrial proceedings: the parties and any participating non-parties must identify on the record, during the deposition or other pretrial proceeding, all protected testimony, without prejudice to their right to so designate other testimony after reviewing the transcript. Any party or non-party may, within fifteen days after receiving the transcript of the deposition or other pretrial proceeding, designate portions of the transcript, or exhibits thereto, as confidential. If a party or non-party desires to protect confidential information at trial, the issue should be addressed during the pre-trial conference.

(c) Other tangible items: the producing party must affix in a prominent place on the exterior of the container or containers in which the information or item is stored the word "CONFIDENTIAL." If only a portion or portions of the information or item warrant protection, the producing party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the protected portion(s).

5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent failure to designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive the designating party's right to secure protection under this agreement for such material. Upon timely correction of a designation, the receiving party must make reasonable efforts to ensure that the material is treated in accordance with the provisions of this agreement.

6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

6.1 Timing of Challenges. Any party or non-party may challenge a designation of confidentiality at any time. Unless a prompt challenge to a designating party's confidentiality designation is necessary to avoid foreseeable, substantial unfairness, unnecessary economic burdens, or a significant disruption or delay of the litigation, a party does not waive its right to challenge a confidentiality designation by electing not to mount a challenge promptly after the original designation is disclosed.

1 6.2 Meet and Confer. The parties must make every attempt to resolve any dispute
2 regarding confidential designations without court involvement. Any motion regarding
3 confidential designations or for a protective order must include a certification, in the motion
4 or in a declaration or affidavit, that the movant has engaged in a good faith meet and confer
5 conference with other affected parties in an effort to resolve the dispute without court action.
6 The certification must list the date, manner, and participants to the conference. A good faith
7 effort to confer requires a face-to-face meeting or a telephone conference.

8 6.3 Judicial Intervention. If the parties cannot resolve a challenge without court
9 intervention, the designating party may file and serve a motion to retain confidentiality under
10 Local Civil Rule 7 (and in compliance with Local Civil Rule 5(g), if applicable). The burden
11 of persuasion in any such motion shall be on the designating party. Frivolous challenges, and
12 those made for an improper purpose (*e.g.*, to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and
13 burdens on other parties) may expose the challenging party to sanctions. All parties shall
14 continue to maintain the material in question as confidential until the court rules on the
15 challenge.

16 7. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN
17 OTHER LITIGATION

18 If a party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation that
19 compels disclosure of any information or items designated in this action as
20 “CONFIDENTIAL,” that party must:

21 (a) promptly notify the designating party in writing and include a copy of
22 the subpoena or court order;

23 (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order
24 to issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena or
25 order is subject to this agreement. Such notification shall include a copy of this agreement;
26 and

(c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be pursued by the designating party whose confidential material may be affected.

8. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

If a receiving party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed confidential material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this agreement, the receiving party must immediately (a) notify in writing the designating party of the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the protected material, (c) inform the person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of this agreement, and (d) request that such person or persons execute the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound" that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

9. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE
PROTECTED MATERIAL

When a producing party gives notice to receiving parties that certain inadvertently produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection, the obligations of the receiving parties are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This provision is not intended to modify whatever procedure may be established in an e-discovery order or agreement that provides for production without prior privilege review. The parties agree to the entry of a non-waiver order under Fed. R. Evid. 502(d) as set forth herein.

10. NON TERMINATION AND RETURN OF DOCUMENTS

Within 60 days after the termination of this action, including all appeals, each receiving party must return all confidential material to the producing party, including all copies, extracts and summaries thereof. Alternatively, the parties may agree upon appropriate methods of destruction.

The confidentiality obligations imposed by this agreement shall remain in effect until a designating party agrees otherwise in writing or a court orders otherwise.

1 IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.
2

3 DATED: April 23, 2018

/s/ Claire E. Tonry, WSBA #44497

4 Attorney for Plaintiff

5 DATED: April 24, 2018

/s/ Stephen R. Parkinson, WSBA #21111

6 Attorneys for Defendant

7

8 PURSUANT TO STIPULATION, IT IS SO ORDERED

9

10 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pursuant to Fed. R. Evid. 502(d), the production of
11 any documents in this proceeding shall not, for the purposes of this proceeding or any other
12 proceeding in any other court, constitute a waiver by the producing party of any privilege
13 applicable to those documents, including the attorney-client privilege, attorney work-product
14 protection, or any other privilege or protection recognized by law.

15

16 DATED this 25th day of April 2018.

17

18 

19 RICARDO S. MARTINEZ
20 CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
21
22
23
24
25
26

EXHIBIT A

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

I, _____ [print or type full name], of _____ [print or type full address], declare under penalty of perjury that I have read in its entirety and understand the Stipulated Protective Order that was issued by the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington on [date] in the case of Puget Soundkeeper Alliance v. Seattle Iron & Metals, Corp., Case No. 2:12-cv-01201-RSM. I agree to comply with and to be bound by all the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order and I understand and acknowledge that failure to so comply could expose me to sanctions and punishment in the nature of contempt. I solemnly promise that I will not disclose in any manner any information or item that is subject to this Stipulated Protective Order to any person or entity except in strict compliance with the provisions of this Order.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after termination of this action.

Date:

City and State where sworn and signed:

Printed name:

Signature: